## Message Text

SECRET

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-01 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05 /087 W

P R 081319Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3831
INFO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USDEL MBFR VIENNA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE
CINC EUR VAIHINGEN

SECRETBONN 20362

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR: FUTURE WORK PROGRAM

REFERENCE: STATE 291027 DTG 070025Z DEC 77

- 1. ON DECEMBER 7, EMBOFF PROVIDED THE FOREIGN OFFICE (RUECKRIEGEL AND HOLIK) WITH THE ESSENCE OF PARAS 1 THROUGH 7 OF REFTEL.
- 2. RUECKRIEGEL STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT THE SPC
  TACITLY DEFER DISCUSSION OF THE WORK PROGRAM ITEM
  ENTITLED "AGREEMENT ON THE EXACT NUMERICAL LEVELS OF
  COLLECTIVE COMMON CEILINGS TO BE ACHIEVED FOLLOWING
  THE PHASE II REDUCTIONS." HE WAS SURE THAT SPC DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM WOULD LEAD TO RENEWED DIFFICULTIES
  WITH THE FRENCH OVER THE QUESTION OF TAKING FRENCH
  FORCES IN GERMANY INTO ACCOUNT IN CALCULATING THE
  COMMON CEILING. RUECKRIEGEL SAW NO PARTICULAR URGENCY
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ON THIS QUESTION AND THEREFORE NO REASON, AT THIS TIME, TO RISK ELICITING ADDITIONAL UNHELPFUL STATEMENTS FROM THE FRENCH IN THE SPC AND COUNCIL.

3. THE EMBASSY TENDS TO AGREE WITH RUECKRIEGEL THAT SPC DISCUSSION OF THIS ITEM SHOULD BE DEFERRED. IT WOULD SEEM TO US THAT THE MORE OFTEN THE FRENCH ARE

PLACED IN A POSITION WHERE THEY MUST FORMALLY OBJECT TO OUR CONCEPT OF THE COMMON CEILING, THE MORE OUR INTERESTS ARE UNDERMINED. ALTHOUGH OTHERS ARE IN A BETTER POSITION THAN WE TO JUDGE THIS QUESTION, WE TEND TO FEEL THAT THIS ISSUE SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN THE SPC ONLY WHEN IT BECOMES NECESSARY TO DO SO, AND THERE SEEMS TO BE NO REAL NEED TO RAISE IT AT PRESENT.

4. RUECKRIEGEL AND HOLIK SAID THEY LOOKED FORWARD TO STUDYING THE US PAPER ON STABILIZING MEASURES AND VERIFICATION. IN THE MEANTIME, THEY ARE DOING AN INTERNAL PAPER OF THEIR OWN ON STABILIZING MEASURES. HOWEVER, THEY SAID THAT IT WAS IN AN EARLY STAGE OF PREPARATION AND THAT THEY HAD NO SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS TO MAKE ON IT AT THIS TIME. STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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